

Abstract of the Disclosure

An optical filter includes an array of light-transmissive beads in a matrix of opaque light absorbing binder that surrounds one portion of the beads to provide light entrances and exit apertures for incident light to pass substantially only through the beads. A transparent layer under the opaque light absorbing layer may serve to increase the diameter of the exit apertures. A prismatic structure or layer of light-dispersing material that exhibits asymmetrical anisotropic dispersion of incident light along orthogonal axes is disposed relative to the beads to disperse light within a wider output angle along one of the orthogonal axes than along another of the orthogonal axes.

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